

*Amendments*

*In the Claims:*

Please amend claim 1.

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1. (Thrice Amended) A method of confining a commodity in one of a plurality of composite containers having a plurality of constituents, comprising the steps of:

assembling the constituents into the composite container around the commodity;

CI providing at least some of the constituents with characteristic indicia not later than in the course of the assembling step;

processing the characteristic indicia into information which is characteristic of each individual assembled container; and

encoding the information upon at least one constituent of the container.

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